1   LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

2   **CLAIMS**

3   1. - 19.   (canceled)

4   20. (currently amended) A <u>computer implemented</u> method for data retrieval, said method

5   comprising assembling an ordered set of objects from a collection of objects to satisfy a query,

6   each object in the collection being an item returned from the query, said items being in a plurality

7   of categories, and categories selected are determined by the connections between said categories

8   in a category graph, said query including a maximum, minimum, or desired duration, said step of

9   assembling comprising the steps of:

10   searching for a list of related objects and obtaining a rank-ordered list of said related objects, said

11   related objects being search results that match the query and are mapped to the same category or

12   mapped to multiple categories wherein the multiple categories are connected in a category graph;

13   selecting any target objects from the rank-ordered list, each target object being a member of a

14   selected subset of the search results;

15   mapping the related objects in the rank-ordered list into categories;

16   connecting the categories into paths in a graph, said graph having a node for each category and

17   edges based upon category relationships, terminating a graph traversal of said categories based

18   upon reaching target objects if there are target objects, and if there is no target objects then

19   terminating said graph traversal within a proximity in the graph near the most relevant category;

20   choosing a best path in the graph based upon a path evaluation criterion;

21   selecting particular objects in categories on the best path based upon an object selection criterion;

1   sorting the particular objects on the best path according to a comparison function, each particular

2   object being an object included in search results that meets the object selection criterion; and

3   obtaining said ordered set of objects satisfying said query.

4   21. (original) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the meta-data description includes a role.

5   22. (original) A method as recited in claim 20, where in the step of sorting uses a comparison

6   taken from a group of comparisons consisting of: the relative position of categories in a category

7   order, the relative position of roles in a role order; the relative levels of difficulty on a difficulty

8   scale, the relative duration on a time scale, or any combination of these comparisons.

9   23. - 33. (canceled)

10   34. (original) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the object selection criterion is a criterion

11   taken from a group of criteria consisting of: membership in the set of target objects, highest

12   relevance score, membership one or more categories on said best path, a total number of objects

13   on said best path less than a maximum or greater than a minimum, a sum of the duration of the

14   objects less than a maximum or greater than a minimum or closest to a desired value, the highest

15   ranking objects within each category, the highest ranking objects within categories within a

16   proximity in the graph near the most relevant category, and any combination of these criteria.

17   35. (original) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the set of objects are linked.

18   36. - 39. (canceled)

19   40. (original) A method as recited in claim 20, said query including a maximum, minimum, or

20   desired duration.